



Call for Papers on the Brazilian National Program for Improving Access and Quality of Primary Care (PMAQ)

The Brazilian National Program for Improving Access and Quality of Primary Care (PMAQ) is one of the world's largest initiatives intended to stimulate access to and quality of primary care services, encompassing over 30,000 health teams in nearly every Brazilian municipality. Currently in its third year, the program has multiple components including an innovative pay for performance mechanism. The program is growing rapidly and evolving new forms of performance assessment; financial and non-financial incentives; and partnerships between municipalities, states, and the federal government.

More information and data (including results of the first and second rounds of evaluation) can be found here: http://dab.saude.gov.br/portaldab/ape_pmaq.php Given its size, scope, and ambition, there is much potential for deriving lessons learned from the program, including:

- analysis of baseline and follow-up quality assessment (external evaluation) surveys;
- analysis of municipal experiences and best practices in stimulating quality improvements;
- evaluation of how municipal variation in incentive design and implementation has affected primary care quality;
- assessment of the program's impact on clinical outcomes;
- assessment of the costs and benefits of the program; and
- evidence-based proposals for continued program streamlining and adaptation.

The special edition will be published with the [Journal of Ambulatory Care Management](#) (JACM), a leading international primary care management and policy journal. A total of 6 articles (in English) along with commentaries will be selected through a rigorous process of peer review to reflect a balance of approaches and perspectives on the PMAQ and highlighting an international perspective on how it may serve as a laboratory for understanding quality improvement in primary care in Brazil and elsewhere. With its ongoing focus on innovative approaches to primary care, medical homes, and community health workers, the editor and publishers of JACM are very pleased to continue leadership on this critical aspect of community health services.

The special edition is expected to be published in late 2016 and will be edited by Norbert Goldfield (JACM) with guest-editors James Macinko (UCLA), Matthew Harris (Imperial College, London) and Marcia Rocha (IDB, Brazil).

Instructions for submitting papers

1. Papers must conform to the standards of publication for research articles in *Journal of Ambulatory Care Management*. [Click here for author guidelines](#).
2. All papers must be submitted via the *Journal of Ambulatory Care Management* website or they will not be considered for the special edition.
3. Papers must be written in English and conform to all JACM standards to be considered.
4. The deadline for receipt of papers is **August 22, 2016** and the expected date of publication for the special edition is late 2016.
5. Only the **6 final selected articles** will have open access publication fees paid courtesy of the InterAmerican Development Bank.